Bridgewater Nov. 7th 1877

My dear Mr Lovidon

I cannot permit the pleasant intercourse that has so long subsisted between us to remain any longer suspended.

When you retired from the Bank I hoped you would find it convenient to spend some time with me here and that I might be able visit you at Hingham, but outward circumstances have disappointed the realization of those anticipations. Your health as I have learned from my friends there has rendered it inconvenient for you to travel, and the sad bereavement I have been called to experience has devolved upon me increased cares and

responsibilities which were before
me greater than I could know
how to discharge.

Notwithstanding these disappointments & afflictions I feel that
I have great cause for gratitude to
a Beneficent Providence for so good
a degree of health & other blessing.
I am still permitted to enjoy at this
advanced age

My deafness prevents my
mixing in society so much as I
should otherwise do and I have a good
many solitary hours. In a review
of my past life the four years I
spent so pleasantly in Hingham
forms a very prominent feature. I
can hardly realize that the little
five year old Latin scholar then is
now past the common age allotted
to men, and has, to me been
for many years one of my most

interesting and respected friends. In looking over my Book of letters I find much to remind me of your good offices on many occasions.

Notwithstanding your retirement I trust you have not lost your interest in political affairs and I should like to know what think of the policy of the present national Administration. Is there patriotism & honesty enough in the people to sustain the President in his efforts to honestly administer the government? I fear not. I congratulate you upon the result of the election in this State.

I am told it is troublesome for you to write, but a letter from you if but a short one would be very gratifying. With sincere regard.

Your friend as ever

Artemas Hale